Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A packet data serving node for connecting a communication terminal device to a public network by using Point to Point Protocol (PPP), comprising:

Link Control Protocol (LCP) phase processing means;

Network Control Protocol (NCP) phase processing means;

decision means for deciding a layer 3 protocol type of a reception PPP packet; and

control means, ~~for making said NCP phase processing means transmit an NCP start request message destined to said communication terminal device, after an LCP phase is completed and said decision means receives an NCP start request message from said communication terminal device~~

wherein, in a NCP phase after an LCP phase is completed, the control means controls the NCP phase processing means not to transmit any NCP start request message to the communication terminal device before receiving a NCP start request message from the communication terminal device,

the decision means receives the NCP start request message from the communication terminal device, and refers to a protocol field in the received NCP start request message to decide the layer 3 protocol type used by the communication terminal device, and

the control means controls the NCP phase processing means to transmit a

NCP start request message set with the layer 3 protocol type decided by the

decision means to the communication terminal device.

2. (Currently Amended) A packet data serving node for connecting a

communication terminal device to a public network by using Point to Point Protocol

(PPP), comprising:

Link Control Protocol (LCP) phase processing means;

a plurality of Network Control Protocol (NCP) phase processing means;

decision means for deciding a layer 3 protocol type of a reception PPP

packet; and

control means, for selecting

wherein, in a NCP phase after an LCP phase is completed, the control means

controls the NCP phase processing means not to transmit any NCP start request

message to the communication terminal device before receiving a NCP start request

message from the communication terminal device,

the decision means receives the NCP start request message from the

communication terminal device, and refers to a protocol field in the received NCP

start request message to decide the layer 3 protocol type used by the

communication terminal device, and

the control means selects one of said NCP phase processing means

corresponding to a layerto the layer 3 protocol used by said communication terminal

device in accordance with the layer 3 protocol type decided by the decision means,

and makingmakes said selected NCP phase processing means transmit antransmit

a NCP start request message destined to said communication terminal device, after

an LCP phase is completed and said decision means receives an NCP start request

message from said communication terminal device.

3. (Currently Amended) A packet data serving node for connecting a

communication terminal device to a public network by using Point to Point Protocol

(PPP), comprising:

Link Control Protocol (LCP) phase processing means;

Network Control Protocol (NCP) phase processing means;

decision means for deciding a layer 3 protocol type of a reception PPP

packet; and

control means, for setting

wherein, in a NCP phase after an LCP phase is completed, the control means

controls the NCP phase processing means not to transmit any NCP start request

message to the communication terminal device before receiving a NCP start request

message from the communication terminal device,

the decision means receives the NCP start request message from the

communication terminal device, and refers to a protocol field in the received NCP

start request message to decide the layer 3 protocol type used by the

communication terminal device, and

the control means sets a layer 3 protocol used by said communication

terminal device to said NCP phase processing means in accordance with the layer 3

protocol type decided by the decision means, and makingmakes said NCP phase

processing means transmit an NCP start request message destined to said

communication terminal device, after an LCP phase is completed and said decision

means receives an NCP start request message from said communication terminal

device.

4. (Currently Amended) A packet data serving node for connecting a

communication terminal device to a public network by using Point to Point Protocol

(PPP), comprising:

Link Control Protocol (LCP) phase processing means;

a plurality of Network Control Protocol (NCP) phase processing means;

decision means for deciding a layer 3 protocol type of a reception PPP

packet;

statistics processing means for statistically processing a type of a layer 3

protocol under PPP; and

control means, for selecting

wherein, in a NCP phase after a LCP phase is completed, the control means

selects said NCP phase processing means using a layer 3 protocol designated by

said statistics processing means, and after an LCP phase is completed,

makingmakes said NCP phase processing means transmit an NCP start request

message destined to said communication terminal device.

5. (Currently Amended) A communication method for a communication system using Point to Point Protocol (PPP) wherein:

in a Network Control Protocol (NCP) phase after ~~an Link~~a Link Control Protocol (LCP) phase process is completed between a terminal device and a packet data serving node,

~~said terminal device starts an Network Control Protocol (NCP) phase process and transmits an NCP start request message to said packet data serving node; and~~

said packet data serving node ~~starts an NCP phase process after the~~does not transmit any NCP start request message to said terminal device before receiving a NCP start request message ~~is received~~ from said terminal device, starts a NCP phase upon receipt of the NCP start request message from said terminal device, and transmits an NCP start request message to said terminal device by using a layer 3 protocol notified from said terminal device.

6. (Currently Amended) A communication connection apparatus for connecting a communication terminal to a public network by using Point to Point Protocol (PPP) via a provider network, comprising:

a ~~receiver~~reception unit which ~~receives a Network Control Protocol (NCP) start request packet from the communication terminal after completing a Link Control Protocol (LCP) process and an authentication process~~receives packets from the communication terminal via an interface of the provider network; and

a ~~control~~transmission unit which transmits packets to the communication terminal via the interface of the provide network;

a control unit,

wherein, in a Network Control Protocol (NCP) process after a Link Control Protocol (LCP) process and an authentication process are completed, the control unit does not transmit any NCP start request packet to the communication terminal before receiving a NCP start request packet from the communication terminal,

when the reception unit receives the NCP start request packet from the communication terminal, the control unit decides a NCP layer 3 protocol type of a received packet based on layer 3 protocol type identification information in a field of the NCP start request packet received by the ~~receiver~~reception unit, and ~~which~~ ~~transmits~~controls the transmission unit to transmit a NCP start request packet of the decided protocol type to the communication terminal.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) A communication connection apparatus for connecting a communication terminal to a public network by using Point to Point Protocol (PPP) via a provider network, comprising:

~~a transmitter unit which transmits a Network Control Protocol (NCP) start request packet of a layer 3 protocol type used by the communication terminal to the communication terminal after completing a Link Control Protocol (LCP) process and an authentication process;~~

~~a receiver unit which receives a NCP start request packet of the protocol from the communication terminal; and~~a reception unit which receives packets from the communication terminal via an interface of the provider network;

<u>a transmission unit which transmits packets to the communication terminal via the interface of the provider network;</u>

<u>a statistic processing unit which statistically process types of layer 3 protocols used in PPP; and,</u>

<u>a control unit,</u>

<u>wherein, in a Network Control Protocol (NCP) occurring after completing a Link Control Protocol (LCP) process and an authentication process, the control unit decides a type of layer 3 protocol to be used for the communication with the communication terminal based on a statistics processing result performed by the statistics processing unit, and transmits a NCP start request packet of the decided layer 3 protocol type from the transmission unit,</u>

<u>wherein when the reception unit receives a NCP start request packet of the decided layer 3 protocol from the communication terminal,</u>

a control unit ~~which~~ controls <u>the transmission unit</u> to transmit a connection permission packet of the<u> decided layer 3</u> protocol ~~to a source~~to the source communication terminal of the NCP start request packet.

9.-22. (Cancelled)